The main features of programme are to reduce Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT & C) losses; to bring about commercial viability; to reduce outages and interruptions; and to increase consumer satisfaction. The programme envisages an investment component that covers strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system with twenty five percent grant and an incentive component as grant to states/utilities that reduce cash losses with 2000-01 as the base year.

Thus, restructuring the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) is a continuous process not only to fine-tune the parameters of performance of the power utilities but also to motivate the power utilities to become commercially viable.

(d) APDRP will the continue to focus on reducing AT&C losses, improve commercial viability of the Utilities, reducing outages & interruptions and to improve consumer satisfaction.

Mega investment for Assam

1102. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister have recently announced a mega investment to the tune of Rs. 60 billion in Assam to boost the energy sectors and shore up the State's beleagured power supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar largesse is likely to be announced for other States in Eastern and North-Eastern parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) During the inauguration of 500 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project at Bongaigaon in Assam, an investment of Rs. 6,000 crore in the energy sector i.e. Rs. 3,000 crore for the Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project and another Rs. 3000 crore as a package for development of coal mines in the region was announced by the Prime Minister. Coal India Limited has identified eight projects with an outlay of Rs. 1425 crores for augmenting production to a level of 1.65 million tones per annum from North Eastern Coalfields. The investment aims at upgrading the

infrastructure of Assam and contributing to sustained economic growth of North Eastern Region. The benefit of the project will not only go to Assam but to other States of North Eastern Region as a whole.

New power plant in Jharkhand

1103. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a 500 MW power plant at Bokaro in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, what would be its source of funding;

(c) the details of the areas which would be served by this power plant;

(d) whether such a plant is also proposed to be set up in Orissa to improve its power position; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, it has been proposed to set up a Thermal Power Plant with capacity of 2x250 MW at Bokaro Steel City, Jharkhand. This project is proposed to be implemented through Bokaro Power Supply Company Ltd. It is a Joint Venture Company of DVC & SAIL with debt equity ratio of 70:30.

(c) Out of 500 MW, it has been proposed to supply about 280 MW (approx.) to meet the requirement of Bokaro Steel Ltd. in the State of Jharkhand. The balance is proposed for export to deficit regions of the country.

(d) and (e) The Government of Orissa has envisaged the following prefects for improvement of power situation in the state.

SI. No.	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity (inMW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. incrore)
1.	Extension Balimela HE Project (7th&8N»Unft)	150 (2x75 MW)	212
2.	lb Thermal Power Station	500 (2x250 MW)	1800
3.	SindcM HE (1,2, 3) Project	320 (100^1004-120)	1600